THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Yes Sir. The Government of Kerala is subsidising the price of rice by an amount equal to the enhancement in its Central Issue Price made by the Central Government w.e.f. 28.12.1991.

(b) The Central Government has increased the Central Issue Price of rice, wheat issued to the States/U.Ts. for distribution under the Public Distribution System for all States/U.Ts w.e.f. 28.12.1991 to partially absorb the increase in the minimum support prices of rice and wheat till 1991-92 kharif and rabi marketing seasons. Even after this increase, the Central Government bears substantial amount of subsidy on the issue of foodgrains distributed under Public Distribution System. No separate financial assistance is given to any State Government/U.T. Administration towards subsidising the price of commodities issued for the Public Distribution System.

Conversion of Residential Plots into Commercial

1185. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the residential roadside plots in Rohini have been converted into commercial plots, and

(b) if so, the steps the Government have taken to check commercialisation of residential areas in Rohini?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). Residential Plots in Rohini have not been converted into commercial plots. However, some cases of misuse of residential premises for commercial purposes have come to the notice of the Delhi Development Authority. It is reported by the DDA that in cases where the misuse of premises have been found to be correct, action has been initiated. Such action includes issue of show-cause notices, termination of lease and prosecution under Section 14 read with Section 29 (2) of the Delhi Development Act, 1957.

Introduction of Dual Ration Cards in Maharashtra

1187. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra introduce dual ration card system;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government has approved the above system; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Development of Slum Areas in Hyderabad

1188. SHRI DHARMABIK SHAM: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are contemplating to take up a master plan for the welfare and development of slum areas in Hyderabad with World Bank assistance; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Ban on Recruitment

1189. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have decided to put a ban on the recruitment in jobs; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b). Government have not issued any general orders putting a total ban on recruitment for Govt. jobs.

Coal Reserves

1190. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the estimates of the Coal reserve;

(b) whether the Government propose to streamline the marketing policy for coal, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to implement an effective demand - supply management with a system approach in consumption, production and movement of coal?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) Geological Survey of India has estimated a total of about 196 billion tonnes of coal reserves in the country as on 1.1.92.

(b) In order to streamline distribution policy of coal, periodical reviews are conducted, as and when necessary, to adjust the changing patterns of demand and supply to maximise consumers satisfaction.

(c) The existing distribution policy provides for allocation as well as movement of coal on priority to core sector industries/ consumers like power, cement, steel, railways etc., on the basis of sponsorships by Central Electricity Authority, Ministry of Industries, Railways etc. The demand from consumers in the non-core sector receives a lower priority. Coal is also made freely available to all consumers, 1000 tonnes at a time, on first come first served basis, from certain mines placed under 'Liberalised Sales Scheme'. Recently a decision has also been taken to release twenty million tonnes of coal from the accumulated pit-head stocks.

Decline in Production of Electronic Goods

1191. SHRI GOPINATH GAJAPATHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER. be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of all type of Electronic equipments has declined in the country since last two years;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to enhance the production of electronic equipments in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b). While the total production of electronics has grown marginally by 5.5% (estimated) in terms of